2259 SICK STATUS

Chapter: **Sununu Youth Services Center** Section: **Healthcare**



New Hampshire Division for Children, Youth and Families Policy Manual

Policy Directive: Approved:

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Related Statute(s): Related Form(s):

Related Admin Rule(s): Bridges' Screen(s) and Attachment(s):

Related Federal Regulation(s):

Sick status has been established to provide residents of the SYSC with an environment for recuperation from physical illness. Sick status also serves to protect others from contagious conditions. It will also encourage residents to deal responsibly with illness.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish the sick status procedure.

Procedure

- I. **Nurse Evaluation:** Residents who have physical illness complaints shall be evaluated by the nurse and those whose condition will be improved by bed rest shall be placed on sick status for the next 24 hours. Only medical personnel may remove residents from sick status.
- II. **Nurse Consultation:** Before a resident is placed on sick status, the nurse may confer with staff (e.g., residential staff, teacher) in order to best evaluate the resident.
- III. **Sick Status Activity:** The resident's activity level while on sick status will be bed rest. This means that the resident will not be allowed to participate in any activities (e.g., trips, classes, groups). They may receive/make phone calls and may, on a case-by-case basis, be allowed visits. The resident will be allowed to read or do quiet activities (e.g., card solitaire). Residents on sick status shall not be required to do their unit job.
- IV. **Sick Status Location:** During school hours, the resident will rest in one of the infirmary rooms, based on availability. After school hours, the resident will be sent back to their room, unless they are too sick to return.
- V. **Sick Status Nutrition:** While on sick status, residents will be provided with nutritious snacks and/or fluids, as appropriate to their health. Meals may be served in the infirmary, and non-infectious residents may eat in the Dining Hall. Food will not be served in the resident's bedroom; rather, the multipurpose room may be used.
- VI. **Nurse Checks:** The nurse shall check on the resident on sick status as needed, but no less than once every 4-8 hours.
- VII. **Communication:** To ensure proper communication flow, the nurse shall notify the appropriate staff (residential staff, School, Kitchen, Operations) regarding which residents are on sick status. Appointments may need to be postponed or cancelled.